Erected c. 1830s, Bloomfield represents a significant example of a transitional building type that bridges the Federal and Greek Revival periods of architectural fashion. While the dwelling's symmetrical, three bay fenestration and single pile, center passage plan represents an uncommon arrangement in St. Mary's County, one of the house's mantles reveals similarities to other mantles found in other houses in the county such as De La Brooke Manor House (SM-94) and Fenwick Free (SM-17). The c. 1830s date, however, is not only based upon the mantle for the building was erected using pit sawn and hewn timbers arranged in a braced frame largely assembled using mortise-and-tenon joints. The exterior beaded clapboard was attached to the frame with fully formed cut nails and the interior plastered using riven lathe attached to the frame with cut lathing nails. During an 1970s renovation a kitchen wing that was replaced in the 1970s by a modern wing attached to the main house with a breezeway.

Land Records suggest that the property was owned for much of the nineteenth century by the Garner family. A Land Commission Record from June 17, 1868 notes that William H. Garner died seized and possessed of several properties including Chickahominy 300 acres, Springfield 140 acres, Bloomfield 140 acres, Pennyview 150 acres, Chick Hill 150 acres, and Laurence Place 100 acres. An ensuing Land Commission case between Richard H. Garner and William's wife Josephine Miles Garner resulted in the transfer of the property to Richard H. Garner. When Richard died in the 1880s, the St. Mary's County Orphans Court recorded an Annual Valuation of the property and listed the following buildings: 1 dwelling, 3 tenant houses, 4 barns, 1 corn house. It also noted that the outbuildings were in good condition but the dwellings needed repairs. It described the property as containing 140 acres in swamp, ravines, and marsh with little wood or timber. The heirs of Richard Garner included Annie Garner, Julia E. Allston, Billingsley Garner, and William Wood Garner. The property passed from descendants of the Garner family in 1971.

SM-205, Bloomfield St. Mary's County Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

<u>Historic Context</u> Geographic Organization: Western Shore

Chronologicial/Developmental Period: Agricultural-Industrial Transition, 1815-1870

Historic Period Theme: Architecture

Resource Type Category:

Building

Historic Environment: Rural

Historic Function and Use: Residence

Known Design Source: None

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES Form

Survey	No.	SM-205
Magi N	io.	
DOE _	_yes	no

1. Nam	(indicate)	preferred name)		
I. Haiii	(Indicate	preferred name/		
historic Bloom	field			
and/or common				
2. Loca	ation			
Scar Hayden Ros street & number		ntersection of Oscar Hayde	n and Whites Neck Road	(Rt. 520) not for publication
city, town Bush	hwood	x_ vicinity of	congressional district	7
state Maryland	d	county	St. Mary's County	TM-38, B-22, P-225
3. Clas	sification			
Category district _x_ building(s) structure site object	Ownership public _x_ private both Public Acquisition in process being considered x not applicabl		Present Use agriculture commercial educational entertainment government industrial military	museum park x private residence religious scientific transportation other:
4. Own	er of Prop	erty (give names a	and mailing address	es of <u>all</u> owners)
name Aimee	Wise (POC: Cecelia R	ose)		
str ee t & number	135 Mockingbird La	ne	Cecelia Ro telephone	ose no.: 301-769-2318
city, town Deca	atur	state	and zip code GA	30030
		gal Descripti	······································	
courthouse, regi	istry of deeds, etc.	St. Mary's County Courthou	se	liber MRB 40
street & number				folio 354
city, town Leon	ardtown		state	Maryland
6. Rep	resentatio	n in Existing	Historical Sur	veys
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date 1975–1976	6		federai st	ate county loc
depository for si	urvey records Marylan	d Historical Trust		
city, town Cr	ownsville		state	Maryland

7. Description Survey No. SM-205

Condition excellent deteriorated X good ruins fair unexposed	Check one unaltered x altered	Check one original site moved date of move	
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Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 1

Bloomfield is located approximately 1 mile south of the intersection of Oscar Hayden and Whites Neck Road (Rt. 520) down a dirt track that extends north from Oscar Hayden Road near the rural community of Bushwood, Maryland. The house is situated on a flat 70.73 acre tract that features a pond, cultivated fields, and woodlands. The property also features two non-contributing tenant houses.

Constructed c. 1830s, Bloomfield is a one-and-a-half story, five bay, frame dwelling with a single pile, center passage plan, two exterior brick chimneys and a gable roof. The house is situated on a field stone foundation and the braced-frame walls are sheathed with beaded clapboard siding. The roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles that effectively imitate cedar shakes.

The east or primary elevation exhibits five symmetrically placed bays--a centrally located six panel door (with four pane transom) flanked on either side by two, nine-over-six, double-hung sash windows. These bays are shaded by an original porch that is supported by six square columns (modern reproductions) with beaded corners and scalloped brackets. The ceiling of the porch is sheathed with beaded matchstick. The roof is pierced by three gable dormers that feature two-over-two windows.

The south elevation features a rebuilt stretcher bond chimney flanked on either side on the first floor by nine-over-six windows and on the half story by four-over-two windows. The walls on this elevation as well as on the west and north elevations feature replacement beaded clapboard.

The west elevation, like the east side, features a centrally placed six panel door flanked by two, nine-over-six, double-hung sash windows. A porch has not yet been constructed on this elevation and it is not clear if there was one originally. The roof is not pierced by dormers.

The north elevation features an original common bond chimney with a stepped base and one set of shoulders. Aimee Wise, current owner of the property, noted that a one story kitchen ell was once attached to this side of the house. A hole for a stove pipe and a ghost on the stack confirms Mrs. Wise's account. The chimney is flanked to the west by a door that once connected the main block to the now demolished kitchen ell. To the east is a nine-over-six window. On the half story, the chimney is flanked on each side by a four-over-two windows.

The interior has been completely gutted. While the original baseboard, chair-rail, door and window surrounds remain, most of the plaster and split lathe (originally attached with cut nails) has been totally removed. This allows a detailed look at the framing of the entire house. The frame is constructed of hewn and pit sawn timbers that are mortise-and-tenoned together. Each of the corner posts are stabilized by mortise-and-tenon braces. The wall studs are also mortise-and-tenon into the wall plate. The partition wall between the center passage and the north room features two independent sets of wall studs suggesting two periods of construction. Analysis of the timbers, however, reveals that there are no nail scars for exterior siding on either the first or half story above. The exact reason for this framing method is unclear as the rest of the framing in the north room is consistent with the other sections of the house. The floor joists for the half story are lapped over the wall plate and support the false plate that in-turn supports the roof rafters. The spacing of the rafters follows the spacing of the floor joists. Each rafter pair is joined by ties that

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support.

Erected c. 1830s, Bloomfield represents a significant example of a transitional building type that bridges the Federal and Greek Revival periods of architectural fashion. While the dwelling's symmetrical, three bay fenestration and single pile, center passage plan represents an uncommon arrangement in St. Mary's County, one of the house's mantles reveals similarities to other mantles found in other houses in the county. The c. 1830-1835 De La Brooke Manor House (SM-94) and a c. 1830s alteration to the north section of Fenwick Free (SM-17) both contain similar mantles. The c. 1830s date, however, is not only based upon the mantle for the building was erected using pit sawn and hewn timbers arranged in a braced frame largely assembled using mortise-and-tenon joints. The exterior beaded clapboard was attached to the frame with fully formed cut nails. The interior was plastered and the riven lathe was attached to the frame with cut lathing nails. While the first floor features a room that was independently framed section, it appears that the entire building was erected during one period. In the 1970s the original kitchen wing was replaced by a modern wing attached to the main house with an open breezeway.

Land Records suggest that the property was owned for much of the nineteenth century by the Garner family. A Land Commission Record from June 17, 1868 notes that William H. Garner died seized and possessed of several properties including Chickahominy 300 acres, Springfield 140 acres, Bloomfield 140 acres, Pennyview 150 acres, Chick Hill 150 acres, and Laurence Place 100 acres. An ensuing court case between Richard H. Garner and William's wife Josephine Miles Garner resulted in the transfer of the property to Richard H. Garner. When Richard died in the 1880s, the St. Mary's County Orphans Court recorded an Annual Valuation of the property and listed the following buildings: 1 dwelling, 3 tenant houses, 4 barns, 1 corn house. It also noted that the outbuildings were in good condition but the dwellings needed repairs. It described the property as containing 140 acres in swamp, ravines, and marsh with little wood or timber. The heirs of Richard Garner included Annie Garner, Julia E. Allston, Billingsley Garner, and William Wood Garner. The property passed from descendants of the Garner family in 1971 and is presently owned by Aimee Wise.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-205

10. Geographica	al Data		
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tate	code	county	code
11. Form Prepai	ed By	county	code
name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Hist	oric Sites Sur	rveyor	
organization St. Mary's County	Dent. of Plani	ning & Zoning	date November 1997
street & number 22740 Washington S	Street		telephone 301-475-4662
city or town Leonardtown			state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust Shaw House 21 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401 (301) 269-2438 MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

DHCP/DHCD 100 COMMUNITY PLACE CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023 514-7600 SM-205, Bloomfield St. Mary's County 7.1 Description

are half dovetail lapped and cut nailed into each rafter. The rafters are then joined together at the peak with a pegged halflap joint.

The center passage permits entry into all spaces of the dwelling. It features two six-panel doors with molded surrounds on the north and south side as well as a winder stair with a square newel and banisters to the half story above. The north room does not feature a mantle but the space above the fireplace was originally plastered. The south room features a chimney block that has been entirely reconstructed. Three mantles are located in this room. Two of the mantles have been salvaged from other houses. The original mantle in this room is a transitional Federal and Greek Revival style mantle with fluted columns, punch and gouge work along the frieze, and a thin projecting shelf. One of the salvaged mantles features a Georgian-style crossette.

SM-205, Bloomfield (Broomfield)

St. Mary's County

8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber MRB 40, Folio 354 Grantee: Arthur T. and Annamarie B. Wise

Grantor: Arthur T. Wise and Rudolph C. Worch III

Date: April 4, 1979

Notes: The property is listed as containing 70.73 acres according to a survey by J. R. McCrone,

Jr., Inc. completed on April 5, 1978.

Reference: Liber DBK 166, Folio 247

Grantee: Arthur T. Wise and Rudolph C. Worch III Grantor: S. Garner Edmonds and Helen R. Edmonds

Date: March 27, 1971

Notes: Here the property is listed as containing 148 acres.

Reference: Liber JMM 8, Folio 166 Grantee: Wood Garner Edmonds

Grantor: G. W. Maddox, et al, William F. Herbert, John H. Reeder, Samuel Hayden, Julius J.

Johnson, commissioners apppointed by the circuit court

Date: November 29, 1932

Notes: As the result of a circuit court case between Josephine G. Slingluff et. al. vs Dorothy Pogue, et. al. (1570 NE) listed in Decree Record Liber JMM 3, Folio 346, the property is sold to W. G. Edmonds at public auction. The court case mentions that the property had been allotted to Richard H. Garner by commissioners appointed to divide the real estate of William H. Garner (Land Commission Record A, Liber JAC, Folio 185, January 17, 1868). Several properties are listed in the case they include Chickahominy 300 acres, Springfield 140 acres, Bloomfield 140 acres, Pennyview 150 acres, Chick Hill 150 acres, Laurence Place 100 acres. An annual valuation conducted on the property in August 1, 1885 noted that Bloomfield contained 140 acres and featured 1 dwelling house, 3 tenant houses, 4 barns, and 1 corn house in good condition and noted that much of the property was in swamp, ravines, and marsh with little wood and timber.

1820's or 30's

This 1 1/2-story, frame farmhouse consists of two individually framed structures built together under a common roof system. Both sections were new at the time of construction in the 1820's or 30's. The house plan of central passage flanked by one room on each side is not often seen in the county. Three bays wide with one exterior chimney at each end, the house has an original piazza across the east facade. The foundation of a kitchen remains at one end.

Also on the property is a frame barn of the same period as the house. Eight bays long, it was originally a grain barn, but was reassembled on stone foundations at a later date to be used as a tobacco house.

The owners of Bloomfield began a restoration of the house in 1975-1976.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM

for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

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	AND/OR HISTORIC:					
	Bloomfield					
2.	LOCATION					
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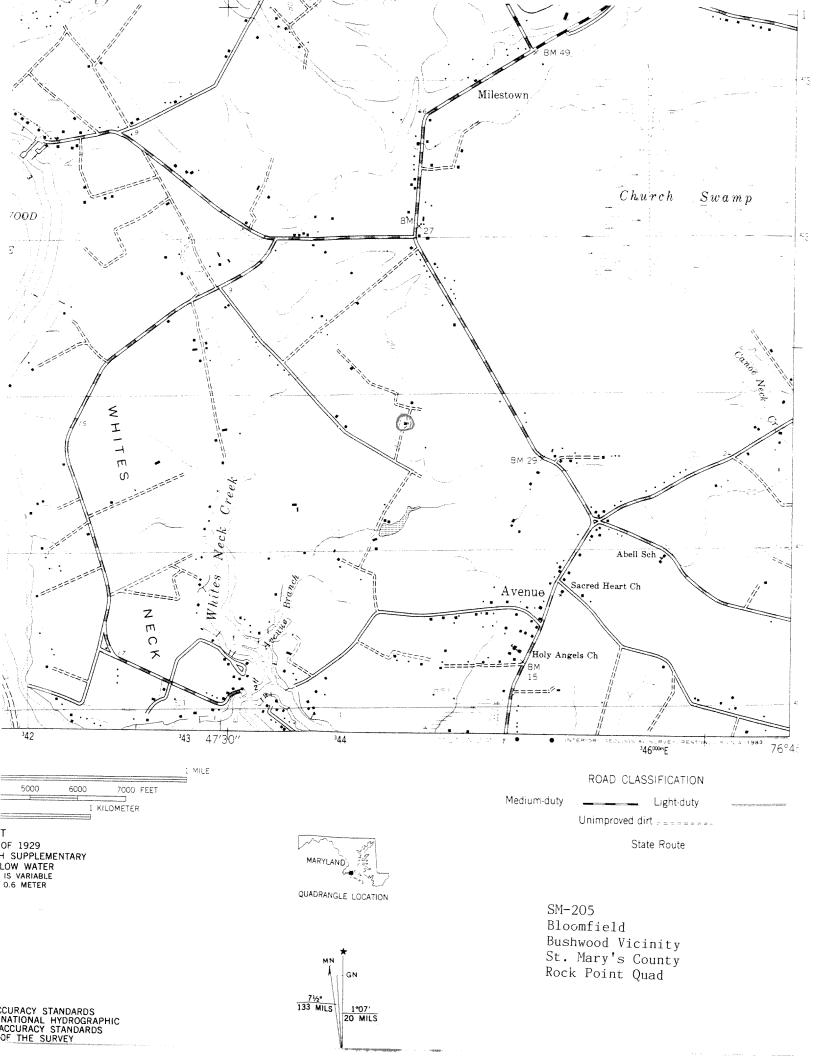
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